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SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 41st MEETING

Chairman: Mr. PETRESKI (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia)

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AGENDA ITEM 97: OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT (continued)

(b) ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (continued)

The meeting was called to order at 3.25 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 94: MACROECONOMIC POLICY QUESTIONS (continued) (A/C.2/50/L.6 and L.56)

(a) FINANCING OF DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Draft resolutions on global financial integration: challenges and opportunities (A/C.2/50/L.6 and L.56)

1. Mr. STADTHAGEN (Nicaragua), Vice-Chairman, introducing draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.56 which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.6, drew attention to the following changes. The first line of the seventh preambular paragraph should read: "Expressing concern, within such a context, at the decline in real terms in the last three years ...", and in paragraph 6, the word "presupposing" in the penultimate line should be deleted.

2. Mr. FLORENCIO (Brazil) proposed a minor editorial change to paragraph 7.

3. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.56, as orally revised, was adopted.

4. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.6 was withdrawn.

AGENDA ITEM 95: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION (continued) (A/C.2/50/L.18, L.20, L.21, L.27, L.30, L.50, L.51, L.53, L.57)

(a) TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Draft resolution on economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries (A/C.2/50/L.18)

5. Mr. MURPHY (Ireland), Vice-Chairman, said that no consensus had been reached on draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.18 and he therefore suggested that it should be put to the vote.

6. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Algeria, Argentina, Bahrain, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian

Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Moldova, Slovakia, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cyprus, Georgia, Greece, Kazakstan, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Spain, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey.

7. The draft resolution was adopted by 79 votes to 27, with 19 abstentions.*

Draft resolutions on the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (A/C.2/50/L.20 and L.50)

8. Mr. MURPHY (Ireland), Vice-Chairman, introducing draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.50, submitted on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.20, said that consensus had been reached. He pointed out that in paragraph 4, the word "possible" should be inserted after the word "highest".

9. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.50, as orally revised, was adopted.

10. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.20 was withdrawn.

(b) HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (continued)

Draft resolutions on the Commission on Human Settlements (A/C.2/50/L.30 and L.53)

11. Mr. MURPHY (Ireland), Vice-Chairman, introducing draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.53, submitted on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.30, said that consensus had been reached on the text and that paragraph 4 should be deleted.

12. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.53, as orally revised, was adopted.

13. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.30 was withdrawn.

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* The delegations of Nigeria and Tunisia subsequently informed the Committee that they had intended to vote in favour of the draft resolution.

(c) UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (HABITAT II) (continued)

Draft resolutions on the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) (A/C.2/50/L.27 and L.57)

14. The CHAIRMAN drew attention to the statement on programme budget implications contained in document A/C.2/50/L.44.

15. Mr. MURPHY (Ireland), Vice-Chairman, introducing draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.57, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.27, pointed out that the end of the fourth preambular paragraph should read: "for the purpose of guiding the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the Conference,".

16. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.57, as orally revised, was adopted.

17. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.27 was withdrawn.

(k) FOOD AND SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Draft resolutions on the World Food Summit (A/C.2/50/L.21 and L.51)

18. Mr. MURPHY (Ireland), Vice-Chairman, introducing draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.51, which he was submitting on the basis of informal discussions held on draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.21, indicated that the word "substantial" in the first line of paragraph 4 should be deleted.

19. Mr. DUNLAVEY (United States) said that while his delegation had withdrawn its opposition to draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.51, it remained concerned that the resolution would obscure the fact that the World Food Summit was not yet another global conference mandated by the General Assembly, but was being convened by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. His Government supported the Summit and its proposed focus on food security. The Summit should examine realistic approaches to food security and its goal should be to achieve practical results.

20. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.51, as orally revised, was adopted.

21. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.21 was withdrawn.

AGENDA ITEM 96: ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (continued)
(A/C.2/50/L.5, L.22, L.29, L.33, L.49, L.52 and L.54)

(a) IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Draft resolutions on the elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa (A/C.2/50/L.22 and L.54)

22. Ms. KELLEY (Secretary of the Committee) read out a statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.54, noting that it was envisaged that the two-week Conference of the Parties referred to in paragraph 5 would have four meetings per day with interpretation and documentation services in all six languages. For costing purposes Geneva had been considered the location of the Conference. On the basis of those assumptions, the conference-servicing requirements for the Conference had been estimated at $700,500 at full cost. Since those requirements would be dealt with within the overall provisions for the conference servicing of the United Nations meetings and conferences reserved under section 26E in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997, no additional appropriation would be required. Activities envisaged under other paragraphs of the draft resolution would have no programme budget implications.

23. Mr. MURPHY (Ireland), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.54, submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.22, and recommended it for adoption by the Committee.

24. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.54 was adopted.

25. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.22 was withdrawn.

(b) DESERTIFICATION AND DROUGHT (continued)

Draft resolutions on desertification and drought (A/C.2/50/L.29 and L.52)

26. Mr. MURPHY (Ireland), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.52, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.29, and recommended it for adoption by consensus.

27. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.52 was adopted.

28. Ms. WHELTON (Canada) said that in order to address the serious issue of drought and desertification in a comprehensive manner, in future the two sub-items should be covered by one draft resolution.

29. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.29 was withdrawn.

(d) PROTECTION OF GLOBAL CLIMATE FOR PRESENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS OF MANKIND (continued)

Draft resolution on the protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind (A/C.2/50/L.33)

30. The CHAIRMAN drew the Committee's attention to the statement of programme budget implications contained in document A/C.2/50/L.49.

31. Mr. MURPHY (Ireland), Vice-Chairman, reporting on the informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.33, said that consensus had been reached on the text and recommended its adoption.

32. Mr. LANGLEY (New Zealand) said that his delegation reserved its position on the draft resolution although it would not stand in the way of consensus. His delegation did not support the institutional linkage referred to in paragraph 2, nor did it agree to committing United Nations resources to a body not wholly responsible to the United Nations. The draft resolution would establish two lines of accountability - one to the Secretary-General and one to the Conference of the Parties. Experience showed that that would not work in an acceptable manner.

33. If placing the Convention's administrative and conference-servicing costs entirely within the Convention's budgets resulted in an increase in assessed contributions for States Parties, New Zealand would be ready to meet its increased contributions. Alternatively, it would support funding from the regular budget, but only on condition that the secretariat was fully accountable within the United Nations structure. That issue was a financial and administrative question which should be addressed in the Fifth Committee.

34. Ms. WILLIAMS-MANIGAULT (United States of America) said that while her delegation would not block consensus on the draft resolution, it disassociated itself from the language of the text, specifically paragraphs 8 and 9, which referred to the unique funding arrangements that had been proposed to support the secretariat for the Framework Convention on Climate Change. She had a serious problem with the funding solution that delegations had accepted for the climate change secretariat.

35. Her Government's political commitment to the Convention remained strong as did its commitment to ensure that the United States was part of the solution to the burgeoning budget crisis of the United Nations. Deciding at a high-level conference to have the United Nations system subsidize a convention secretariat was not an effective solution. The United States would not lend its support to a funding mechanism - regardless of how "provisional" it was intended to be - that resulted in increasing rather than reducing the expenses of the United Nations general budget.

36. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.33 was adopted.

(f) INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR NATURAL DISASTER REDUCTION (continued)

Draft resolution on an international decade for natural disaster reduction (A/C.2/50/L.5)

37. Mr. MURPHY (Ireland), Vice-Chairman, reporting on the informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.5, said that consensus had been reached on the text. He recommended its adoption by the Committee.

38. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.5 was adopted.

AGENDA ITEM 97: OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT (continued) (A/C.2/50/L.24 and L.48)

(b) ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (continued)

Draft resolutions on economic and technical cooperation among developing countries and a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation (A/C.2/50/L.24 and L.48)

39. Mr. STADTHAGEN (Nicaragua), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.48, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.24, and recommended it for adoption by the Committee.

40. Mr. MURAOKA (Japan) said that his delegation would have joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.24.

41. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.48 was adopted.

42. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.24 was withdrawn.

The meeting rose at 4.40 p.m.